

Fractions and Decimals

For questions in the Quantitative Comparison format (“Quantity A” and “Quantity B” given), the answer choices are always as follows:

- (A) Quantity A is greater.
- (B) Quantity B is greater.
- (C) The two quantities are equal.
- (D) The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

For questions followed by a numeric entry box , you are to enter your own answer in the

box. For questions followed by fraction-style numeric entry boxes

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, you are to enter your answer in the form of a fraction. You are not required to reduce fractions. For example, if the answer is 1/4, you may enter 25/100 or any equivalent fraction.

All numbers used are real numbers. All figures are assumed to lie in a plane unless otherwise indicated. Geometric figures are not necessarily drawn to scale. You should assume, however, that lines that appear to be straight are actually straight, points on a line are in the order shown, and all geometric objects are in the relative positions shown. Coordinate systems, such as xy-planes and number lines, as well as graphical data presentations such as bar charts, circle graphs, and line graphs, are drawn to scale. A symbol that appears more than once in a question has the same meaning throughout the question.

1. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{4}{5} + \frac{5}{6} =$

—

2.

Quantity A

$$-\frac{3}{4} + \frac{2}{3}$$

Quantity B

$$-\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{2}{3}$$

3. The temperature in Limerick is 3/4 that in Cairo, where the temperature is 8/5 that in Halifax. If the temperature in

Lim erick is 60° , w hat is the tem perature in H alifax?

- (A) 50°
- (B) 55°
- (C) 64°
- (D) 72°
- (E) 75°

4.A t a convention of m onsters, $\frac{2}{5}$ have no horns, $\frac{1}{7}$ have one horn, $\frac{1}{3}$ have tw o horns,and the rem aining 26 have three or m ore horns.H ow m any m onsters are attending the convention?

- (A) 100
- (B) 130
- (C) 180
- (D) 210
- (E) 260

5.O ne dose of secret form ula is m ade from $\frac{1}{6}$ ounce of Substance X and $\frac{2}{3}$ ounce of Substance Z .H ow m any doses are in a 30-ounce vial of secret form ula?

- (A) 20
- (B) 24
- (C) 30
- (D) 36
- (E) 45

6.D evora spends $\frac{1}{4}$ of her m oney on a textbook,and then buys a notebook that costs $\frac{1}{6}$ the price of the textbook. A ssum ing she m akes no other purchases,w hat fraction of her m oney does D evora have left over?

7. $0.003482 =$

Indicate all such statem ents.

- ☐ -0.003482×10^{-1}
- ☐ 0.3482×10^{-2}
- ☐ 34.82×10^4
- ☐ 34.82×10^{-4}
- ☐ $3,482 \times 10^{-6}$

8. $12.12 \times 10^{-3} =$

Indicate all such statem ents.

- ☐ -1.21×10^3

☐ 0.012

☐ 0.00001212×10^3

☐ 0.01212×10^3

9.5 is how many fifths of 10?

(A) 2.5

(B) 5

(C) 10

(D) 20

(E) 50

10.

$$x > 0 \text{ and } y > 0$$

Quantity A

$$\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y}$$

Quantity B

$$\frac{xy}{x+y}$$

11.

Quantity A

$$\frac{75}{4^2} \times \frac{3^2}{45} \times \frac{2^4}{45}$$

Quantity B

$$\frac{3^2}{4^2} \times \frac{2^2}{5^2} \times \frac{10}{3}$$

12. 5/12 of all the students are girls and 1/4 of all the students are girls who take Spanish. What fraction of the girls take Spanish?

(A) 5/48

(B) 5/12

(C) 2/5

(D) 3/5

(E) 7/12

13. 1/5 of all the cars on a certain auto lot are red, and 2/3 of all the red cars are convertibles. What fraction of all the cars are NOT red convertibles?

14. Two identical pies are cut into a total of 16 equal parts. If each part is then split equally among three people, what fraction of a pie does each person receive?

(A) 1/48

- (B) $1/24$
 (C) $1/16$
 (D) $3/16$
 (E) $3/8$

15. Which of the following are bigger than twice $21/49$?

Indicate all such values.

- ☐ 0.84
☐ 0.857
☐ 0.858
☐ 0.86

16.

$$xy \neq 0$$

Quantity A

$$2 + \frac{1}{xy}$$

Quantity B

$$\frac{2xy + 1}{xy}$$

17.

Quantity A

$$\frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1-2}{\frac{1}{3}}}$$

Quantity B

$$\frac{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{4} - \frac{3-4}{\frac{2}{3}}}$$

18.

At Store A, $3/4$ of the apples are red.
 At Store B, which has twice as many apples, 0.375 of them are red.

Quantity A

The number of red apples at Store A

Quantity B

The number of red apples at Store B

19.

Dw eezil has one third the number of black marbles that Gina has, but he has twice as many white marbles.
 Both people have only black marbles and white marbles.

Quantity A

Quantity B

The number of marbles Dweezil has

The number of marbles Gina has

20. A pot of soup is divided equally into two bowls. If Manuel eats $\frac{1}{4}$ of one of the bowls of soup and $\frac{2}{5}$ of the other bowl of soup, how much of the soup did Manuel eat?

21. What is half of $\frac{x^2}{8}$?

- (A) $\frac{x}{4}$
- (B) $\frac{4}{x}$
- (C) $\frac{8}{x^2}$
- (D) 16
- (E) It cannot be determined.

22. $\frac{\frac{ab}{c}}{\frac{cd}{a}} =$

- (A) ac
- (B) bd
- (C) $\frac{bd}{a^2b}$
- (D) $\frac{c^2d}{ab^2}$
- (E) cd^2

23. $\left(\frac{\sqrt{12}}{5}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{60}}{2^4}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{45}}{3^2}\right) =$

- (A) $\frac{1}{12}$
- (B) $\frac{1}{6}$
- (C) $\frac{1}{4}$
- (D) $\frac{1}{3}$
- (E) $\frac{1}{2}$

24. $\frac{-1}{2x} - \frac{1}{4y} + \frac{1}{xy} + \frac{1}{8} =$

- (A) $\frac{(x-4)(2-y)}{8xy}$
- (B) $\frac{(x-2)(y-4)}{8xy}$
- (C) $\frac{(x-4)(y-2)}{8xy}$
- (D) $\frac{(x+2)(4-y)}{8xy}$
- (E) $\frac{(x-2)(4-y)}{8xy}$

25.

x is a digit in the decimal 12.15x9, which, if rounded to the nearest hundredth, would equal 12.16.

Quantity A

x

Quantity B

4

26. $\frac{\frac{a}{b}}{\frac{c}{d} + \frac{e}{f}} =$

- (A) $\frac{acd}{bcf + def}$
 (B) $\frac{bdf + bcd}{acf}$
 (C) $\frac{bde + cdf}{ade}$
 (D) $\frac{bef + cdf}{adf}$
 (E) $bcf + bde$

27. $\frac{(17^2)(22)(38)(41)(91)}{(19)(34)(123)(11)(119)(26)} =$

28. In a decimal number, a bar over one or more consecutive digits means that the pattern of digits under the bar repeats without end. As a fraction, $7.58\overline{3} =$

29.

Quantity A

$$\left(\frac{\sqrt{25}}{\sqrt{10}}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{8}}{\sqrt{15}}\right)$$

Quantity B

$$\left(\frac{\sqrt{51}}{\sqrt{46}}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{23}}{\sqrt{34}}\right)$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} - \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} =$$

(A) $\frac{\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{6}}$

(B) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}$

(C) $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$

(D) $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

(E) $\frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{6}}$

31. If $abc \neq 0$, then $\frac{ab}{cb} + \frac{a}{c} - \frac{a^2b^3}{abc} =$

(A) $\frac{a - b^2}{c}$

(B) $\frac{c}{2a^2 - b^2}$

(C) $\frac{c}{a(2 - b^2)}$

(D) $\frac{c}{a^2b(2 - b^2)}$

(E) $\frac{c}{c}$

32. If $\frac{3}{4}$ of all the cookies have nuts and $\frac{1}{3}$ of all the cookies have both nuts and fruit, what fraction of all the cookies have nuts but no fruit?

(A) $\frac{1}{4}$

(B) $\frac{5}{12}$

(C) $\frac{1}{2}$

(D) $\frac{7}{12}$

(E) $\frac{5}{6}$

33. $\frac{1}{4}$ of all the juniors and $\frac{2}{3}$ of all the seniors are going on a trip. If there are $\frac{2}{3}$ as many juniors as seniors, what

fraction of the students are not going on the trip?

- (A) $\frac{4}{9}$
- (B) $\frac{1}{2}$
- (C) $\frac{2}{3}$
- (D) $\frac{1}{3}$
- (E) $\frac{5}{6}$

34. $\frac{4}{5}$ of the women and $\frac{3}{4}$ of the men speak Spanish. If there are 40% as many men as women, what fraction of the group speaks Spanish?

35.

$$abcd \neq 0$$

Quantity A

$$\frac{a^2b}{cd^2} \times \frac{d^3}{abc}$$

Quantity B

$$\frac{d^2}{bc} \times \frac{ab^2}{bd}$$

36.

Quantity A

$$\frac{24}{3\sqrt{2}} - \frac{4}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Quantity B

$$\sqrt{6}$$

37.

$$m \neq 0$$

Quantity A

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{m}\right)(m+2)$$

Quantity B

$$\frac{(m+2)^2}{2m}$$

38.

The reciprocal of x 's non-integer decimal part equals $x + 1$, and $x > 0$.

Quantity A

$$x$$

Quantity B

$$\sqrt{2}$$

39. Which two of the following numbers have a sum between 1 and 2?

Indicate both of the numbers.

☐ $\frac{7(2^3)}{3^3 - 7}$

☐ $\frac{2^4}{1+2+3+4}$

☐ $\frac{3}{11} \div \frac{6}{11}$

☐ $\frac{-2^3 3^2}{2^2 5^2}$

☐ $\frac{-11^2 - 11^3}{(30)(44)}$

40. Which three of the following answers, when multiplied by each other, yield a product less than -1?

Indicate all three numbers.

☐ $\frac{-15}{17}$

☐ $\frac{-18}{19}$

☐ $\frac{23}{-22}$

☐ $\frac{17}{-16}$

41. The decimal representation of the reciprocal of integer n contains an infinitely repeating pattern of digits, expressed with a bar over the repeating digits. The minimum length of the bar (in digits) is $n - 1$.

Indicate all of the integers below that could be n .

☐ 3

☐ 5

☐ 7

☐ 9

☐ 11

42. $(3 - \frac{1}{3})^2 + (3 + \frac{1}{3})^2 =$

- (A) 122/9
- (B) 164/9
- (C) 36
- (D) 164/3
- (E) 162

43. If $\frac{3}{\frac{m+1}{m} + 1} = 1$, then m must equal

- (A) -2
- (B) -1
- (C) 0
- (D) 1
- (E) 2

44.

$$rs = \sqrt{3}$$

Q uantity A

$$\frac{2r\sqrt{12}}{r^2s\sqrt{72}}$$

Q uantity B

$$\frac{14rs^2}{42s}$$

45.

Q uantity A

$$\frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{8}} \div \frac{\sqrt{9}}{\sqrt{10}}$$

Q uantity B

$$\frac{\sqrt{11}}{\sqrt{9}} \div \frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{11}}$$

46.

$$\frac{x}{m} > 0$$

Q uantity A

$$\frac{11m + 17x}{11m}$$

Q uantity B

$$\frac{17m + 11x}{17m}$$

47. Which of the following fractions has the greatest value?

- (A) $\frac{7}{(16^2)(25)}$
- (B) $\frac{(32)(5^4)}{30}$
- (C) $\frac{(512)(5^3)}{5}$
- (D) $\frac{(4^6)(5)}{4}$
- (E) $\frac{(2^{11})(5^2)}{5}$

48.

$$\frac{m}{p} > \frac{n}{p}$$

Q uantity A

m

Q uantity B

n

49.If $2x \neq y$ and $5x \neq 4y$,then

$$\frac{\frac{5x-4y}{2x-y}}{\frac{3y}{y-2x}+5} =$$

- (A) $\frac{1}{2}$
- (B) $\frac{2}{3}$
- (C) $\frac{2}{5}$
- (D) $\frac{2}{7}$
- (E) $\frac{2}{9}$

$$50. \frac{39^2}{2^4} \div \frac{13^3}{4^2} =$$

- (A) $\frac{13}{2}$
- (B) $\frac{2}{3}$
- (C) $\frac{2}{3}$
- (D) $\frac{13}{9}$
- (E) 13

51. To the nearest integer, the non-negative fourth root of integer n rounds to 3. Inclusive, n is between

- (A) 0 and 1
- (B) 2 and 3
- (C) 4 and 9
- (D) 10 and 39
- (E) 40 and 150

Fractions and Decimals Answers

71

1. **20 (or any equivalent fraction).** Add all the fractions by finding a common denominator, which is a multiple of 2,3,4,5,and 6.The smallest number that will work is 60.

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{4}{5} + \frac{5}{6} = \frac{30}{60} + \frac{40}{60} + \frac{45}{60} + \frac{48}{60} + \frac{50}{60} = \frac{30 + 40 + 45 + 48 + 50}{60} = \frac{213}{60} = \frac{71}{20}$$

2. **(A).** In Quantity A ,get a common denominator and then add:

$$-\frac{3}{4} + \frac{2}{3} = -\frac{9}{12} + \frac{8}{12} = -\frac{1}{12}$$

In Quantity B ,multiply across (common denominators are only needed for addition and subtraction). You can cancel the 3's first if you wish:

$$-\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{2}{3} = -\frac{\cancel{3}}{4} \times \frac{2}{\cancel{3}} = -\frac{2}{4} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$-\frac{1}{12}$ is larger than $-\frac{1}{2}$. (Be careful with negatives! The closer to 0 a negative is, the larger it is.)

3. **(A).** When you are given two relationships in one sentence, follow the grammar carefully to make sure you produce the right equations. The first sentence of the problem gives you two relationships:

The temperature in Limerick is $\frac{3}{4}$ that in Cairo.
The temperature in Cairo is $\frac{8}{5}$ that in Halifax.

$$L = \frac{3}{4}C$$
$$C = \frac{8}{5}H$$

Replace C with $(\frac{8}{5})H$ in the first equation:

$$L = \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{8}{5} H \right)$$

$$L = \frac{24}{20} H$$

$$L = \frac{6}{5} H$$

Now plug in 60 for L :

$$60 = \frac{6}{5} H$$

$$\frac{5}{6} \times 60 = H$$

$$50 = H$$

4.(D). This is a common G R E setup— you have been given several fractions and one actual number. Once you know what fraction of the whole that number represents, you can solve for the total (call the total m). Notice that all of the denominators are primes, so they don't share any factors. Therefore you will have to multiply them all together to find a common denominator. $5 \times 7 \times 3 = 105$:

$$\frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{42}{105} + \frac{15}{105} + \frac{35}{105} = \frac{92}{105}$$

That means that the remaining 26 monsters represent $\frac{13}{105}$ of the total monsters at the convention:

$$26 = \frac{13}{105} m$$

$$\frac{105}{13} \times 26 = m$$

$$105 \times 2 = m$$

$$210 = m$$

5.(D). To find the number of doses in the vial, you need to divide the total volume of the formula in the vial by the volume of one dose.

$$\text{One dose} = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{4}{6} = \frac{5}{6}$$

Now divide 30 ounces by $\frac{5}{6}$:

$$30 \div \frac{5}{6} = 30 \times \frac{6}{5} = 36$$

$$\frac{17}{24}$$

6. **$\frac{17}{24}$ (or any equivalent fraction).** The textbook costs $\frac{1}{4}$ of D evora's money. The notebook costs $\frac{1}{6}$ of that amount, or $\frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{1}{4} \right) = \frac{1}{24}$ of D evora's money. Thus, D evora has spent $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{24} = \frac{6}{24} + \frac{1}{24} = \frac{7}{24}$ of her money. Subtract from 1 to get the fraction she has left: $1 - \frac{7}{24} = \frac{24}{24} - \frac{7}{24} = \frac{17}{24}$.

Alternatively, pick a value for D evora's money. (Look at the denominators in the problem — 4 and 6— and pick a value that both numbers go into.) For instance, say D evora has \$120. She would spend $\frac{1}{4}$, or \$30 on the textbook. She

would spend $\frac{1}{6}$ of that amount, or \$5, on the notebook. She would have spent \$35 and have \$85 left, and thus $\frac{85}{120}$ of her money left. Reduce $\frac{85}{120}$ to get $\frac{17}{24}$, or simply enter $\frac{85}{120}$ in the boxes. This will work with any value you pick for D evora's total.

7. **II, IV, and V only.** Note that the first answer is negative, so it cannot be correct. For the second answer, move the decimal 2 places to the left: $0.3482 \times 10^{-2} = 0.003482$ (correct). For the third answer, move the decimal 4 places to the right (since the exponent is positive)— this move makes the number much larger and cannot be correct. For the fourth answer, move the decimal 4 places to the left: $34.82 \times 10^{-4} = 0.003482$ (correct). For the fifth answer, move the decimal 6 places to the left: $3,482 \times 10^{-6} = 0.003482$ (correct).

8. **III only.** First, simplify $12.12 \times 10^{-3} = 0.01212$. Now, test which answers are equal to this value. The first answer is negative, so it cannot be correct. The second answer is simply 0.012 and is therefore incorrect (the end has been “chopped off,” so the number is not the same value). The third answer is $0.00001212 \times 10^3 = 0.01212$ and is correct. The fourth answer is $0.01212 \times 10^3 = 12.12$ and is not correct.

9. **(A).** Translate the words into math. If x means “how many,” then “how many fifths” is $\frac{x}{5}$:

$$5 = \frac{x}{5} \times 10$$

$$5 = \frac{10x}{5}$$

$$25 = 10x$$

$$\frac{25}{10} = x$$

$$x = 2.5$$

10. **(D).** Add the fractions in Quantity A by making a common denominator (xy):

$$\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} = \frac{y}{xy} + \frac{x}{xy} = \frac{y+x}{xy}$$

Q uantity B is just the reciprocal of Q uantity A — one fraction is the “flipped” version of the other. Y ou also know that both quantities are positive. H ow ever, w ithout know ing m ore about x and y, you don’t know w hether Q uantity A or Q uantity B is bigger.

11.(A).Sim ply each quantity by breaking dow n to prim es and canceling factors:

$$\text{Quantity A : } \frac{75}{4^2} \times \frac{3^2}{45} \times \frac{2^4}{45} = \frac{3 \times 5 \times 5}{(2^2)^2} \times \frac{3^2}{3 \times 3 \times 5} \times \frac{2^4}{3 \times 3 \times 5} = \frac{2^4 \times 3^3 \times 5^2}{2^4 \times 3^4 \times 5^2} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\text{Quantity B : } \frac{3^2}{4^2} \times \frac{2^2}{5^2} \times \frac{10}{3} = \frac{3^2}{(2^2)^2} \times \frac{2^2}{5^2} \times \frac{2 \times 5}{3} = \frac{2^3 \times 3^2 \times 5}{2^4 \times 3 \times 5^2} = \frac{3}{2 \times 5} = \frac{3}{10}$$

$$\frac{1}{3} > \frac{3}{10}$$

Since $\frac{1}{3} > \frac{3}{10}$, Q uantity A is bigger than Q uantity B . Y ou can com pare these fractions by m aking a com m on denom inator, by cross m ultiplying, or by com paring the decim al equivalents 0.333... and 0.3.

If you notice the sam e factors on each side in the sam e position (e.g., 3^2 on top or 4^2 on bottom), then you can save tim e by canceling those factors sim ultaneously from both quantities.

12.(D).The w ording here is very confusing. The problem is *not* asking you to take $1/4$ of $5/12$. R ather, $1/4$ and $5/12$ are fractions of the sam e num ber (the num ber of students in the w hole class). A good w ay to avoid this confusion is to plug in a num ber for the class. Pick 12, as you’re asked to take $5/12$ ths of the class:

C lass = 12

G irls = 5

G irls w ho take Spanish = 3 ($1/4$ of all the students)

Y ou are asked for the num ber of girls w ho take Spanish over the num ber of girls. Thus, the answ er is $3/5$.

13. **13/15 (or any equivalent fraction)**. If $1/5$ of all the cars are red and $2/3$ of TH O SE are convertibles, then the fraction of all the cars that are red convertibles = $(1/5)(2/3) = 2/15$. Since you w ant all of the cars that are N O T red convertibles, subtract $2/15$ from 1 to get $13/15$.

14.(B).If *tw o* pies are cut into 16 parts, *each* pie is cut into eighths. Thus, $1/8$ of a pie is *divided* am ong three people. “O ne third of one eighth” = $(1/3)(1/8) = 1/24$.

15. **III and IV only**. Sim ply plug $21/49$ into the calculator, and then m ultiply by 2 to get 0.857142... Y ou need all values larger than this num ber. O bviously, 0.84 is sm aller. The next choice, 0.857, m ight seem attractive; how ever, it is sm aller than 0.857142... Y ou can easily see this by adding zeroes to the end of 0.857 in order to m ore easily com pare:

C choice II: 0.857000
 Your number: 0.857142...

The third and fourth choices are, of course, larger than 0.857142...

16.(C). Transform Quantity B by splitting the numerator:

$$\frac{2xy + 1}{xy} = \frac{2xy}{xy} + \frac{1}{xy}$$

Then cancel the common factor xy from top and bottom of the first fraction:

$$\frac{2xy}{xy} + \frac{1}{xy} = 2 + \frac{1}{xy}, \text{ which is the same as Quantity A.}$$

Alternatively, you can transform Quantity A by turning 2 into a fraction with the same denominator (xy) as the second term.

$$2 + \frac{1}{xy} = \frac{2xy}{xy} + \frac{1}{xy} = \frac{2xy + 1}{xy}, \text{ which is the same as Quantity B.}$$

17.(B). Simplify each quantity from the inside out.

Quantity A:

$$\frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1-2}{1}} = \frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{2}{3} - \frac{-1}{1}} = \frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{2}{3} - (-3)} = \frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{2}{3} + 3} = \frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{2}{3} + \frac{9}{3}} = \frac{\frac{1}{4}}{\frac{11}{3}} = \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{3}{11} = \frac{3}{44}$$

Quantity B:

$$\frac{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{4} - \frac{3-4}{2}} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{4} - \frac{-1}{2}} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{4} - \left(\frac{-3}{2}\right)} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{2}} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{6}{4}} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{7}{4}} = \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{4}{7} = \frac{4}{21}$$

Since Quantity B has a larger numerator *and* a smaller denominator, it is larger than Quantity A. This rule works for any positive fractions. Of course, you can also use the calculator to compute the decimal equivalents.

18.(C). Whether you choose fractions or decimals, you want to make $\frac{3}{4}$ and 0.375 the same form. Either way, you will see that $\frac{3}{4}$ is double 0.375 (which is $\frac{3}{8}$). Since Store B has twice as many apples, $\frac{3}{8}$ of Store B's apples is the same value as $\frac{3}{4}$ of Store A's apples.

Alternatively, pick numbers such that Store B has twice as many apples. If Store A has 4 apples and Store B has 8 apples, then Store A would have $(\frac{3}{4})(4) = 3$ red apples and Store B would have $(0.375)(8) = 3$ red apples. The values will always be the same.

19. **(D)**. To demonstrate that there is not enough information to determine who has more marbles, try extreme examples. Dewezil has $\frac{1}{3}$ as many black marbles as Gina, but twice as many white marbles:

EXAMPLE 1: LOTS OF BLACK MARBLES

Dewezil: 1,000 black marbles 2 white marbles

Gina: 3,000 black marbles 1 white marble

In this example, Gina has more.

EXAMPLE 2: LOTS OF WHITE MARBLES

Dewezil: 1 black marble 2,000 white marbles

Gina: 3 black marbles 1,000 white marbles

In this example, Dewezil has more.

As always, when trying examples in Quantitative Comparison problems, you *must* try more than one example—with the goal of proving (D).

20. **13/40 (or any equivalent fraction)**. Manuel eats $\frac{1}{4}$ of one-half of all the soup, and then $\frac{2}{5}$ of the other half of all the soup. As math:

$$\frac{1}{4}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{2}{5}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{5} = \frac{13}{40}$$

Alternatively, pick numbers. Since you'll be dividing this number several times, pick a large number with many factors. For example, say there are 120 ounces of soup. Each bowl would then have 60 ounces. Manuel would then eat $\frac{1}{4}$ of one bowl (15 ounces) and $\frac{2}{5}$ of the other bowl (24 ounces). In total, he would eat 39 ounces out of 120. While $\frac{39}{120}$ would be counted as correct, it is also possible to reduce $\frac{39}{120}$ (divide both numerator and denominator by 3) to get $\frac{13}{40}$, the answer you reached via the other method above.

21. **(D)**. To take half of a number, multiply by $\frac{1}{2}$:

$$\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{x^2}{8} = \frac{x^2}{16}$$

22. **(D)**. To divide by a fraction, multiply by its reciprocal:

$$\frac{\frac{ab}{c}}{\frac{cd}{a}} = \frac{ab}{c} \times \frac{a}{cd} = \frac{a^2b}{c^2d}$$

23.(C).Pull squares out of the square roots and cancel common factors:

$$\left(\frac{\sqrt{12}}{5}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{60}}{2^4}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{45}}{3^2}\right) = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{5} \times \frac{2\sqrt{15}}{2^4} \times \frac{3\sqrt{5}}{3^2} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{5} \times \frac{\sqrt{15}}{2^2} \times \frac{\sqrt{5}}{3}$$

Since $\sqrt{15} = \sqrt{3}\sqrt{5}$, you get

$$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{5} \times \frac{\sqrt{15}}{2^2} \times \frac{\sqrt{5}}{3} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{5} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{5}}{2^2} \times \frac{\sqrt{5}}{3} = \frac{3 \times 5}{5 \times 2^2 \times 3} = \frac{1}{2^2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

24.(C).Combine the four fractions by finding a common denominator ($8xy$, which is also suggested by the answer choices):

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{-1}{2x} - \frac{1}{4y} + \frac{1}{xy} + \frac{1}{8} &= \frac{-1(4y)}{2x(4y)} - \frac{1(2x)}{4y(2x)} + \frac{1(8)}{xy(8)} + \frac{1(xy)}{8(xy)} \\ &= \frac{-4y}{8xy} - \frac{2x}{8xy} + \frac{8}{8xy} + \frac{xy}{8xy} = \frac{xy - 4y - 2x + 8}{8xy} \end{aligned}$$

Now the key is to factor the top expression correctly.

$$xy - 4y - 2x + 8 = (x - 4)(y - 2)$$

You can always FOIL the expression on the right to make sure it matches the left-hand side.

$$\frac{xy - 4y - 2x + 8}{8xy} = \frac{(x - 4)(y - 2)}{8xy}$$

So, in the end you have

25.(A).Since the decimal rounds to 12.16, the thousandths digit must be 5 or greater (6, 7, 8, or 9). All of these possibilities are greater than 4.

26.(E).Simplify from the inside out by finding a common denominator (df) for the two fractions "inside":

$$\frac{\frac{a}{b}}{\frac{c}{d} + \frac{e}{f}} = \frac{\frac{a}{b}}{\frac{cf}{df} + \frac{de}{df}}$$

Next, add those two inside fractions; then flip and multiply:

$$\frac{\frac{a}{b}}{\frac{cf}{df} + \frac{de}{df}} = \frac{\frac{a}{b}}{\frac{cf + de}{df}} = \frac{a}{b} \times \frac{df}{cf + de} = \frac{adf}{bcf + bde}$$

1

27. $\frac{1}{3}$ (or any equivalent fraction). You could just punch the whole numerator and the whole denominator into the calculator and submit each product. If you're very careful, that will work. However, it might be wise to try canceling some common factors out of the fraction, to save time and to avoid errors. It's fine to switch to the calculator whenever the cancellations aren't obvious.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(17^2)(\cancel{22})(38)(41)(91)}{(19)(34)(123)(\cancel{11})(119)(26)} &= \frac{(17^2)(2)(\cancel{38}2)(41)(91)}{(\cancel{19})(34)(123)(119)(26)} \\ &= \frac{(17^2)(2)(2)(41)(91)}{(\cancel{34}2)(123)(119)(26)} = \frac{(17)(2)(2)(\cancel{41})(91)}{(2)(\cancel{123}3)(119)(26)} \\ &= \frac{(17)(2)(2)(\cancel{91}7)}{(2)(3)(119)(\cancel{26}2)} = \frac{(\cancel{17})(2)(2)(\cancel{7})}{(2)(3)(\cancel{17} \times \cancel{7})(2)} \\ &= \frac{(\cancel{2})(\cancel{2})}{(\cancel{2})(3)(\cancel{2})} = \frac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

91

28. 12 (or any equivalent fraction). First, turn the decimal into a sum of two pieces, to separate the repeating portion.

$$7.58\overline{3} = 7.58 + 0.00\overline{3}$$

Deal with each piece in turn. Like any other terminating decimal, 7.58 can be written as a fraction with a power of 10 in the denominator.

$$7.58 = \frac{758}{100}$$

$$0.\overline{3} = 0.3333... = \frac{1}{3}$$

Now, when you look at the repeating portion, you should be reminded that

$$\text{So } 0.00\overline{3} \text{ is just } \frac{1}{3} \text{, moved by a couple of decimal places.}$$

$$0.00\overline{3} = (0.\overline{3})(0.01) = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(\frac{1}{100}\right) = \frac{1}{300}$$

Finally, you can write the original decimal as a sum of fractions, and then combine those fractions.

$$7.58\overline{3} = 7.58 + 0.00\overline{3} = \frac{758}{100} + \frac{1}{300} = \frac{758 \times 3}{300} + \frac{1}{300} = \frac{2,275}{300}$$

You can enter $\frac{2,275}{300}$, unreduced, or you can reduce it to $\frac{91}{12}$ if you want.

29.(A). Simplify each quantity by factoring the square roots, then canceling.

$$\text{Quantity A: } \left(\frac{\sqrt{25}}{\sqrt{10}}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{8}}{\sqrt{15}}\right) = \left(\frac{5}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{5}}\right)\left(\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{5}}\right) = \left(\frac{\cancel{5}}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{\cancel{5}}}\right)\left(\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{\cancel{5}}}\right) =$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\left(\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}}\right) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\text{Quantity B: } \left(\frac{\sqrt{51}}{\sqrt{46}}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{23}}{\sqrt{34}}\right) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{17}}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{23}}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{23}}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{17}}\right) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{23}}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{23}}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

Since $\sqrt{3} < 2$, Quantity B is smaller than 1, whereas Quantity A is greater than 1.

Of course, you can use the calculator here, but the process would be slower and more prone to error.

30.(B). The square root of a fraction is the square root of the top over the square root of the bottom.

$$\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} - \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}}$$

Then make a common denominator: $\sqrt{3}\sqrt{2} = \sqrt{6}$.

$$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{2}} - \frac{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{2}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{6}} - \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}$$

31.(D).Simplify each fraction first by canceling common terms from top and bottom .

$$\frac{ab}{cb} + \frac{a}{c} - \frac{a^2b^3}{abc} = \frac{\cancel{a}\cancel{b}}{\cancel{c}\cancel{b}} + \frac{a}{c} - \frac{a^2\cancel{b}^3}{\cancel{a}\cancel{b}c} = \frac{a}{c} + \frac{a}{c} - \frac{ab^2}{c}$$

Luckily, every fraction now has the same denominator, so you can just add/subtract the numerators.

$$\frac{a}{c} + \frac{a}{c} - \frac{ab^2}{c} = \frac{2a - ab^2}{c} = \frac{a(2 - b^2)}{c}$$

32.(B).Since 3/4 of the cookies have nuts and 1/3 of the cookies also have fruit, simply subtract 3/4 - 1/3 to get all the cookies with nuts but no fruit.

$$\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{9}{12} - \frac{4}{12} = \frac{5}{12}$$

Alternatively, pick numbers. Since you will be dividing by 4 and 3, pick a number divisible by 4 and 3. If there are 12 cookies, then 9 have nuts and 4 have nuts and fruit, so 5— and thus 5/12 of the total— would have nuts but no fruit.

33.(B).If you have to take fractions of different numbers that are also related by a fraction, then you should try plugging numbers. Since there are 2/3 as many juniors as seniors, some easy numbers are:

Juniors = 20

Seniors = 30

Juniors going on trip = $\frac{1}{4}$ (20) = 5

Seniors going on trip = $\frac{2}{3}$ (30) = 20

Out of 50 total students, 25 are going on the trip, so 25 are NOT going on the trip. The answer is 25/50 = 1/2.

34. **11/14 (or any equivalent fraction)**. If you have to take fractions of different numbers that are also related by a fraction or percent, then you should try plugging numbers. Since there are 40% as many men as women, some easy numbers are:

Men: 40

Women: 100

Women who speak Spanish = $\frac{4}{5}$ (100) =

80 Men who speak Spanish = $\frac{3}{4}$ (40) = 30

The group has 140 total people and 110 Spanish speakers. $110/140 = 11/14$ (you are not required to reduce, as long as your answer is correct and fits in the box).

35.(D). Cancel factors on top and bottom of each product.

$$\text{Quantity A: } \frac{a^2b}{cd^2} \times \frac{d^3}{abc} = \frac{a^2bd^3}{abc^2d^2} = \frac{ad}{c^2}$$

$$\text{Quantity B: } \frac{d^2}{bc} \times \frac{ab^2}{bd} = \frac{ab^2d^2}{b^2cd} = \frac{ad}{c}$$

The two quantities differ in the denominators: A has c^2 , while B has c . So you can't tell which quantity is bigger, because sometimes c^2 is greater than c , and other times c^2 is less than c .

36.(A). Simplify Quantity A by canceling the common factor of 3 from top and bottom of the first fraction, then subtracting the numerators.

$$\frac{24}{3\sqrt{2}} - \frac{4}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{8}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{4}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{8-4}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Now compare Quantity A $\left(\frac{4}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$ with Quantity B $(\sqrt{6})$. Multiply both quantities by $\sqrt{2}$ to eliminate the denominator on the left.

$$\text{Quantity A} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{2}}\sqrt{2} = 4, \text{ while Quantity B} = \sqrt{6}\sqrt{2} = \sqrt{12}.$$

Finally, square both quantities to get rid of the square-root sign:

$$\text{Quantity A} = 4^2 = 16, \text{ while Quantity B} = (\sqrt{12})^2 = 12.$$

Quantity A is obviously larger.

37.(D). Multiply out Quantity A by FOILing:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{m}\right)(m+2) &= \frac{1}{2}(m) + \frac{1}{2}(2) + \frac{1}{m}(m) + \frac{1}{m}(2) \\ &= \frac{m}{2} + 1 + 1 + \frac{2}{m} = \frac{m}{2} + 2 + \frac{2}{m} \end{aligned}$$

Make a common denominator ($2m$) to add these terms:

$$\frac{m}{2} + 2 + \frac{2}{m} = \frac{m(m)}{2(m)} + 2\left(\frac{2m}{2m}\right) + \frac{(2)2}{(2)m} = \frac{m^2 + 4m + 4}{2m}$$

Finally, look at Quantity B. Since $(m + 2)^2 = m^2 + 4m + 4$, you know that the quantities are the same.

38. **(C)**. You can approach this problem by testing Quantity B ($\sqrt{2}$) as x . Using the calculator, you get $\sqrt{2} \dots$. This decimal number doesn't repeat, but isolate the non-integer decimal part.

$$\sqrt{2} - 1 \approx 0.41421356 \dots$$

Now take the reciprocal of both sides.

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2} - 1} \approx \frac{1}{0.41421356 \dots} = 2.41421356 \dots$$

The result seems to be 1 more than the original number, $\sqrt{2}$. To prove this outcome exactly, change the right side of the equation to $\sqrt{2} + 1$ and rearrange. If the equation is true, you should be able to prove that the two sides are equal.

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2} - 1} = \sqrt{2} + 1?$$

Cross multiply. Notice the difference of squares:

$$1 = (\sqrt{2} - 1)(\sqrt{2} + 1)?$$

$$1 = (\sqrt{2})^2 - 1^2 = 2 - 1 = 1$$

Since $1 = 1$, the original equation is true, and $x = \sqrt{2}$.

39. **I and V only**. Compute each value. For the simple cases, practice not using the calculator:

$$\square \quad \frac{7(2^3)}{3^3 - 7} = \frac{7 \times 8}{27 - 7} = \frac{56}{20} = 2.8$$

$$\square \quad \frac{2^4}{1 + 2 + 3 + 4} = \frac{16}{10} = 1.6$$

$$\square \quad \frac{3}{11} \div \frac{6}{11} = \frac{3}{11} \times \frac{11}{6} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2} = 0.5$$

$$\square \quad \frac{-2^3 3^2}{2^2 5^2} = \frac{-8 \times 9}{10^2} = \frac{-72}{100} = -0.72$$

$$\square \quad \frac{-11^2 - 11^3}{(30)(44)} = \frac{-11^2(1 + 11)}{(30)(44)} = \frac{-121(12)}{(30)(44)} = \frac{-1,452}{-1,320} = -1.1$$

In the last case, you could cancel factors and solve without the calculator, or you could punch in the products on top and bottom as shown, then divide on the calculator.

You've converted each value to decimal form, to make them easy to add. You are looking for two values that add up to a number between 1 and 2. You know that there can only be two such values.

By inspecting the positive numbers, you can see that no two of them add up to a number between 1 and 2. So you need a positive and a negative. The only two possibilities that work are 2.8 and -1.1.

40. II, III, and IV only. You want the product of three of the numbers to be less than -1. You can brute-force the calculation by trying all possible products, but you can use the relative size of the numbers to reduce the effort.

Notice that the four answer choices are all very close to -1, but some are greater than -1, and others are less than -1. To get the exact order, you can use the calculator, or you can think about the difference between each fraction and -1:

$$\frac{-15}{17} = \frac{-17}{17} + \frac{2}{17} = -1 + \frac{2}{17}$$

$$\frac{-18}{19} = \frac{-19}{19} + \frac{1}{19} = -1 + \frac{1}{19}, \text{ which is less than the previous number (since } \frac{2}{17} > \frac{1}{19} \text{)}$$

$$\frac{23}{-22} = \frac{-23}{22} = \frac{-22}{22} - \frac{1}{22} = -1 - \frac{1}{22}$$

$$\frac{17}{-16} = \frac{-17}{16} = \frac{-16}{16} - \frac{1}{16} = -1 - \frac{1}{16}, \text{ a greater decrease from -1 than the previous number.}$$

$$\frac{17}{-16} < \frac{23}{-22} < -1 < \frac{-18}{19} < \frac{-15}{17}$$

So the order of the original numbers relative to each other and to -1 is this:

Try multiplying the three lowest numbers first, since they will produce the lowest product. Only *one* product of the three numbers can be less than -1 (or there would be more than one right answer), so the three numbers must be as follows, as you can check on the calculator:

$$\frac{17}{-16} \times \frac{23}{-22} \times \frac{-18}{19} \approx -1.052... < -1$$

$$\frac{1}{5}$$

41. **III only.** First, eliminate any decimals that *don't* repeat. The reciprocal of 5, which is $15 \frac{1}{5}$, equals 0.2, which doesn't repeat. Next, use your calculator to compute the repeating decimals that correspond to the other reciprocals.

$$\frac{1}{3} = 0.333... = 0.\overline{3}$$

The bar only has to be 1 digit long, which does not equal $n - 1$ ($= 3 - 1 = 2$).

$$\frac{1}{7} = 0.14285714... = 0.\overline{142857}$$

The bar is 6 digits long, which equals $n - 1$ ($= 7 - 1 = 6$).

$$\frac{1}{9} = 0.111... = 0.\overline{1}$$

The bar only has to be 1 digit long, which does not equal $n - 1$ ($= 9 - 1 = 8$).

$$\frac{1}{11} = 0.0909... = 0.\overline{09}$$

The bar only has to be 2 digits long, which does not equal $n - 1$ ($= 11 - 1 = 10$).

So, 7 is the only possibility.

42. **(B).** First, simplify inside the parentheses. Then, square and add:

$$\left(\frac{8}{3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{10}{3}\right)^2$$

$$\frac{64}{9} + \frac{100}{9}$$

The answer is $164/9$.

43. **(D).** If the left-hand side of the equation is equal to 1, then the numerator and denominator must be equal. Thus, the denominator must also be equal to 3:

$$\frac{m+1}{m} + 1 = 3$$

$$\frac{m+1}{m} = 2$$

$$m+1 = 2m$$

$$1 = m$$

Alternatively, you can just plug in each answer choice (into both instances of m in the original equation), and stop when you hit a choice that works.

44. **(B)**. Cancel common factors in each quantity and substitute in for rs .

$$\text{Quantity A: } \frac{2r\sqrt{12}}{r^2s\sqrt{72}} = \frac{2\sqrt{12}}{rs\sqrt{72}} = \frac{2\sqrt{12}}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{72}} = \frac{2\sqrt{4}}{\sqrt{72}} = \frac{2 \times 2}{\sqrt{36}\sqrt{2}} = \frac{4}{6\sqrt{2}} = \frac{2}{3\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\text{Quantity B: } \frac{14rs^2}{42s} = \frac{14rs}{42} = \frac{14\sqrt{3}}{3 \times 14} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

At this point, you can use the calculator, or you can compare the two quantities with an "invisible inequality."

$$\frac{2}{3\sqrt{2}} \quad ?? \quad \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

Since everything is positive, you can cross multiply (be sure to do so *upward*):

$$2 \times 3 \quad ?? \quad 3 \times \sqrt{2}\sqrt{3}$$

Now square both sides. Since everything is positive, the invisible inequality is unaffected:

$$(2 \times 3)^2 \quad ?? \quad 3^2 \times 2$$

$$36 \quad ?? \quad 54$$

Since $36 < 54$, Quantity B is bigger.

45. **(A)**. To divide fractions, multiply by the reciprocal.

$$\text{Quantity A: } \frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{8}} \div \frac{\sqrt{9}}{\sqrt{10}} = \frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{8}} \times \frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{9}} = \frac{10}{\sqrt{72}} = \frac{10}{6\sqrt{2}} = \frac{5}{3\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\text{Quantity B : } \frac{\sqrt{11}}{\sqrt{9}} \div \frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{11}} = \frac{\sqrt{11}}{\sqrt{9}} \times \frac{\sqrt{11}}{\sqrt{10}} = \frac{11}{3\sqrt{10}}$$

Square both quantities to get rid of the square roots.

$$\text{Quantity A : } \left(\frac{5}{3\sqrt{2}} \right)^2 = \frac{5^2}{3^2 2} = \frac{25}{18}$$

$$\text{Quantity B : } \left(\frac{11}{3\sqrt{10}} \right)^2 = \frac{11^2}{3^2 10} = \frac{121}{90}$$

At this point, use the calculator. Quantity A is approximately 1.389, whereas Quantity B is approximately 1.344.

46. **(A)** Always start by considering the initial given(s). If $x/m > 0$, then you know the two variables have the same sign (and that neither of them are 0). Looking down at the columns, you'll notice that there are common terms in the numerators and denominators of both fractions, so it will probably pay off to separate out the fractions:

$$\text{Quantity A : } \frac{11m + 17x}{11m} = \frac{11m}{11m} + \frac{17x}{11m} = 1 + \frac{17x}{11m}$$

$$\text{Quantity B : } \frac{17m + 11x}{17m} = \frac{17m}{17m} + \frac{11x}{17m} = 1 + \frac{11x}{17m}$$

Now that you've rephrased your two quantities, put them in an "invisible inequality" and see what you can do (since you don't know which side is greater, use a ? instead of the < or > symbols).

$$1 + \frac{17x}{11m} \quad ? \quad 1 + \frac{11x}{17m}$$

$$\frac{17x}{11m} \quad ? \quad \frac{11x}{17m}$$

Now isolate x/m on both sides:

$$\frac{17}{11} \times \frac{x}{m} \quad ? \quad \frac{11}{17} \times \frac{x}{m}$$

Now, because you know that x/m is positive, you can simply divide both sides by it:

$$\frac{17}{11} \quad ? \quad \frac{11}{17}$$

You're left with two fractions, one of which is greater than 1, and one of which is less than 1. The answer is (A).

47. **(A)**. To determine which fraction is largest, cancel common terms from all five fractions until the remaining values are small enough for the calculator. Note that every choice has at least one 5 on the bottom, so cancel 5^1 from all of the denominators.

Note also that every fraction has a power of 2 on the bottom, so convert 16^2 , 32 , 512 , 4^6 , and 2^{11} to powers of 2. Since $16 = 2^4$, $32 = 2^5$, $512 = 2^9$, and $4^6 = (2^2)^6 = 2^{12}$, so you now have:

$$(A) \frac{7}{(2^4)(5)}$$

$$(B) \frac{(2^5)(5^3)}{30}$$

$$(D) \frac{(2^9)(5^2)}{5}$$

$$(C) \frac{(2^{12})}{4}$$

$$(E) \frac{(2^{11})(5)}{(2^4)(5)}$$

Since every choice has at least 2^4 on the bottom, cancel 2^4 from all 5 choices:

$$(A) \frac{7}{5}$$

$$(B) \frac{(2)(5^3)}{30}$$

$$(C) \frac{(2^5)(5^2)}{5}$$

$$(D) \frac{2^8}{4}$$

$$(E) \frac{(2^7)(5)}{(2^7)(5)}$$

Note that the numerators also have some powers of 2 and 5 that will cancel out with the bottoms of each of the fractions. In choice (C), $30 = (2)(3)(5)$:

$$(A) \frac{7}{5}$$

$$(B) \frac{1}{(2)(5^2)}$$

- (C) $\frac{3}{(2^4)(5)}$
- (D) $\frac{5}{2^8}$
- (E) $\frac{1}{(2^5)(5)}$

These values are now small enough for the calculator. Note that the G R E calculator does not have an exponent button — to get 2^8 , you must multiply 2 by itself 8 times. This is why you should memorize powers of 2 up to 2^{10} , and powers of 3, 4, and 5 up to about the 4th power.

- (A) 1.4
- (B) 0.02
- (C) 0.0125
- (D) 0.01953125
- (E) 0.00625

The answer is (A).

48. **(D)**. Without knowing the signs of any of the variables, you cannot assume that m is larger. While it certainly *could* be (for instance, $m = 4, n = 2$, and $p = 1$), if p is negative, the reverse will be true (for instance, $m = 2, n = 4$, and $p = -1$).

49. **(A)**. Since this expression is complicated, deal with the denominator first. To add 5 to the fraction, make a common denominator ($y - 2x$):

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{3y}{y-2x} + 5 &= \frac{3y}{y-2x} + 5 \frac{y-2x}{y-2x} = \frac{3y}{y-2x} + \frac{5(y-2x)}{y-2x} \\ &= \frac{3y}{y-2x} + \frac{5y-10x}{y-2x} = \frac{8y-10x}{y-2x} \\ &= \frac{8y-10x}{y-2x}\end{aligned}$$

Now put $y - 2x$ back into the original expression. You can flip and multiply:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{5x-4y}{2x-y} &= \frac{5x-4y}{2x-y} \\ \frac{3y}{y-2x} + 5 &= \frac{8y-10x}{y-2x} = \left(\frac{5x-4y}{2x-y} \right) \left(\frac{y-2x}{8y-10x} \right)\end{aligned}$$

By looking at the answer choices, you can tell that this expression must be reducible to a number. How? Look at $y - 2x$ and $2x - y$. They are actually negatives of each other: $2x - y = -(y - 2x)$. So you can then cancel the whole expression $y - 2x$ from top and bottom:

$$\left(\frac{5x-4y}{2x-y}\right)\left(\frac{y-2x}{8y-10x}\right)=\left(\frac{5x-4y}{-(y-2x)}\right)\left(\frac{y-2x}{8y-10x}\right)=\left(\frac{5x-4y}{-1}\right)\left(\frac{1}{8y-10x}\right)$$

You can do the same thing with the remaining terms: $8y - 10x = -2(5x - 4y)$.

$$\left(\frac{5x-4y}{-1}\right)\left(\frac{1}{8y-10x}\right)=\left(\frac{5x-4y}{-1}\right)\left(\frac{1}{-2(5x-4y)}\right)=\left(\frac{1}{-1}\right)\left(\frac{1}{-2}\right)=\frac{1}{2}$$

50.(E). To divide fractions, multiply by the reciprocal.

$$\frac{39^2}{2^4} \div \frac{13^3}{4^2} = \frac{39^2}{2^4} \times \frac{4^2}{13^3}$$

Now break down to primes and cancel common factors.

$$\frac{39^2}{2^4} \times \frac{4^2}{13^3} = \frac{(3 \times 13)^2 \times (2^2)^2}{2^4 \times 13^3} = \frac{3^2 \times 13^2 \times 2^4}{2^4 \times 13^3} = \frac{3^2}{13} = \frac{9}{13}$$

51.(E). You can take the fourth root by taking the square root *twice*. So you should expect the fourth root of an integer greater than 1 to be much smaller than the number itself (for instance, the fourth root of 16 is 2, and the fourth root of 625 is 5).

One way to approach this problem is this: what integer n would give you *exactly* 3 as its fourth root?

$$\sqrt[4]{n} = 3$$

Raise each side to the fourth power:

$$n = 3^4 = 81$$

Only the interval in choice (E) contains 81.

Alternatively, take the fourth root (by using the square root button *twice*) of the values in the answer choices. The fourth root of 40 is 2.5148... which rounds to 3. Likewise, if you take the fourth root of 150, you get 3.4996... which also rounds to 3.